IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-15. Canceled.

16. (Currently amended) A method for suppressing the hyperproliferative growth of arterial cells ~~treatment of a hyperproliferative disorder~~ in a patient, the method comprising directly introducing into said arterial cells ~~administering to a patient a therapeutically~~ a nucleic acid encoding ~~effective amount does of~~ a fusion polypeptide ~~that~~,

wherein said fusion polypeptide comprises an E2F DNA binding domain ~~of a transcription factor~~ and a functional growth suppression domain of a retinoblastoma (RB) polypeptide ;

wherein said E2F DNA binding domain lacks a functional cyclin A binding domain; and wherein said fusion polypeptide is expressed in an amount sufficient to attenuate the growth of at least a portion of said arterial cells.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein ~~the fusion polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid delivered to the patient~~ said nucleic acid is a replication-deficient adenoviral vector.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein ~~the transcription factor is E2F~~ at least a portion of said arterial cells endogenously express defective RB protein.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the RB is RB56.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the RB is wild type RB56.

22. (Previously amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the functional growth suppression domain of the RB polypeptide comprises from about amino acid residue 379 to about amino acid residue 928 (SEQ ID NO:4).

23. (Previously amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the functional growth suppression domain of the RB polypeptide comprises at least one substitution of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of 2, 608, 612, 788, 807, and 811.

24. (Previously amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the E2F polypeptide comprises about amino acid residues 95 to about 286 (SEQ ID NO:1).

25. (Previously amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the E2F polypeptide comprises about amino acid residues 95 to about 194 (SEQ ID NO:1).

26. (Previously amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises EF2 amino acid residues from about 95 to about 194 (SEQ ID NO:1) operatively linked to RB amino acid residues from about 379 to about 928 (SEQ ID NO:4).

27. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the E2F-RB fusion polypeptide is expressed under the control of a tissue-specific promoter.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the tissue specific promoter is a smooth muscle actin promoter.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31-36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a fusion of about amino acids 95-194 of E2F (SEQ ID NO:1) and about amino acids 379-928 of RB (SEQ ID NO:4); and

wherein said fusion polypeptide is encoded by a replication-deficient adenoviral viral vector directly introduced into said arterial cells.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the RB portion of the encoded fusion polypeptide comprises at least one substitution of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of 608, 612, 788, 807, and 811.

40. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein expression of said fusion polypeptide is under control of a cytomegalovirus promoter.

41. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein said expression of said fusion polypeptide is under control of a smooth muscle actin promoter.

42. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a fusion of about amino acids 95-286 of E2F (SEQ ID NO:1) and about amino acids 379-928 of RB (SEQ ID NO:4); and

wherein said fusion polypeptide is encoded by a replication-deficient adenoviral viral vector directly introduced into said arterial wall cells.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the RB portion of the encoded fusion polypeptide comprises at least one substitution of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of 608, 612, 788, 807, and 811.

44. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein expression of said fusion polypeptide is under control of a cytomegalovirus promoter.

45. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein expression of said fusion polypeptide is under control of a tissue-specific promoter.

46. (New) The method of any of claims 17, 38 or 43, wherein said adenoviral vector is administered by directly contacting said arterial cells with a stent, wherein said stent is coated with an administration composition comprising said vector.